

CLAIMS

1. An adsorbent medium comprising particles of a cellulosic sponge material carrying functional groups.
2. A medium according to claim 1, wherein the sponge material is free of fibrous reinforcement.
3. A medium according to claim 1 or claim 2, which has a water retention value of greater than 6 ml/g.
4. A medium according to any preceding claim, wherein the sponge material is a naturally-occurring polymer.
5. A medium according to claim 4, wherein the polymer is cellulose or agarose.
6. A medium according to any preceding claim, wherein the functional groups bind DNA.
7. A medium according to claim 6, wherein the functional groups are derived from DEAE.
8. A medium according to any preceding claim, wherein the particles are 0.5 to 10 mm in size.
9. A medium according to any preceding claim, capable of retaining species having a molecular weight of at least one million Daltons.
10. A medium according to any preceding claim, wherein the sponge material is cross-linked.
11. A method for purifying DNA in an aqueous sample, which comprises passing the sample through a medium according to

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12. A medium according to any of claims 1 to 10, wherein the particles are of heterogeneous particle size and are obtainable by chopping a larger block of the cellulosic sponge material.

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